



# Newport Police Department

169 SW Coast Highway  
Newport, Oregon 97365

## NPD MEDIA RELEASE

06/30/2015 7:00 a.m.

### ***Incident:*** FIREWORKS SAFETY

***Details:*** As the Fourth of July quickly approaches, most of us are wrapped up with thoughts of barbeques, parades, block parties, gathering with loved ones, and obviously, fireworks! Who can say no to the loud flashes of brilliant color lighting up the night sky?

Unfortunately, along with these beautiful displays comes danger. If not used properly, fireworks can be dangerous, especially when fire conditions are extreme. As severe drought continues to plague many regions nationwide, increasing the threat of wildfires, it is important to celebrate the Fourth of July in the safest possible way.

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, **in the month around the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday, more than 200 people on average go the emergency room every day with fireworks-related injuries.** Fireworks are dangerous! This Independence Day, protect your family from fireworks. **Attend public displays, and leave the lighting to the professionals.** Additionally, don't forget that Independence Day occurs during the hottest time of year, so make sure you stay hydrated and keep out of the sun during times when the heat is most intense!

The National Council on Fireworks Safety and the Oregon State Fire Marshal offers these common sense safety tips for using consumer fireworks. Hopefully injuries to consumers can be greatly reduced this season. It is up to you to use fireworks in a safe and responsible manner:

- *Parents and caretakers should always closely supervise teens if they are using fireworks.*
- *Parents should not allow young children to handle or use fireworks.*
- *Fireworks should be used only outdoors.*
- *Always have water ready if you are using fireworks.*
- *Know your fireworks; read the caution label before igniting.*
- *Obey local laws. If fireworks are not legal where you live, do not use them.*
- *Light only one firework at a time.*
- *Never re-light a "dud" firework. Wait 20 minutes, and then soak it in a bucket of water.*
- *Avoid using homemade fireworks or illegal explosives.*
- *Lastly, soak spent fireworks with water before placing them in an outdoor, fire-resistant garbage can away from buildings and flammable materials.*

In Oregon, illegal fireworks are any that explode or fly into the air. Fireworks are prohibited on all beaches, state parks, and state or federal forest lands. Promote and practice the 4 Be's: Be Prepared, Be Safe, Be Responsible, and

Be Aware. More information is available at:

[http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Licensing\\_permits/fireworks/4BsFireworks.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Licensing_permits/fireworks/4BsFireworks.pdf) and

[http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Licensing\\_permits/fireworks/Fireworks\\_4Bs\\_Spanish.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Licensing_permits/fireworks/Fireworks_4Bs_Spanish.pdf)

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*Information Released By: Chief Mark J. Miranda, 541-574-3348*